

William and Lucy

Tell Bible Stories



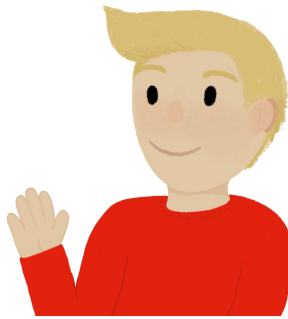
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Written by
R. Swansbury

Book 3



My name is
Lucy.



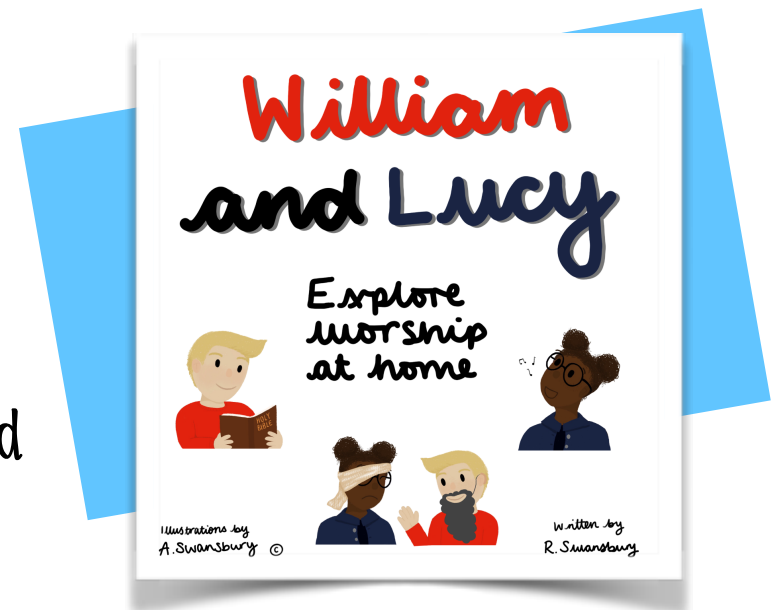
My name
is William

Hello! We go to a Church of England Primary School, but at the moment we are at home with our families because our schools are closed. We miss joining with our school family in worship, so are going to have a go at exploring worship in our own home. We have chosen some of our favourite Bible stories that we wonder if you could use in your worship at home.

Information for parents and carers

This book of selected Bible stories from the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) in the New Testament of the Bible has been written to be used alongside 'William and Lucy explore Worship at Home'. It might be that you can find versions of the stories in a children's Bible or book of Bible stories at home as well. Sometimes, other versions can be more suitable for particular ages and stages and, therefore, may be more appropriate for your child/ren.

The 'engage' part of worship in a Church school is linked to a Bible story so that the children can understand how the important messages in the Bible, especially the life and example of Jesus, can help them to think about their place in the world and the difference they can make.



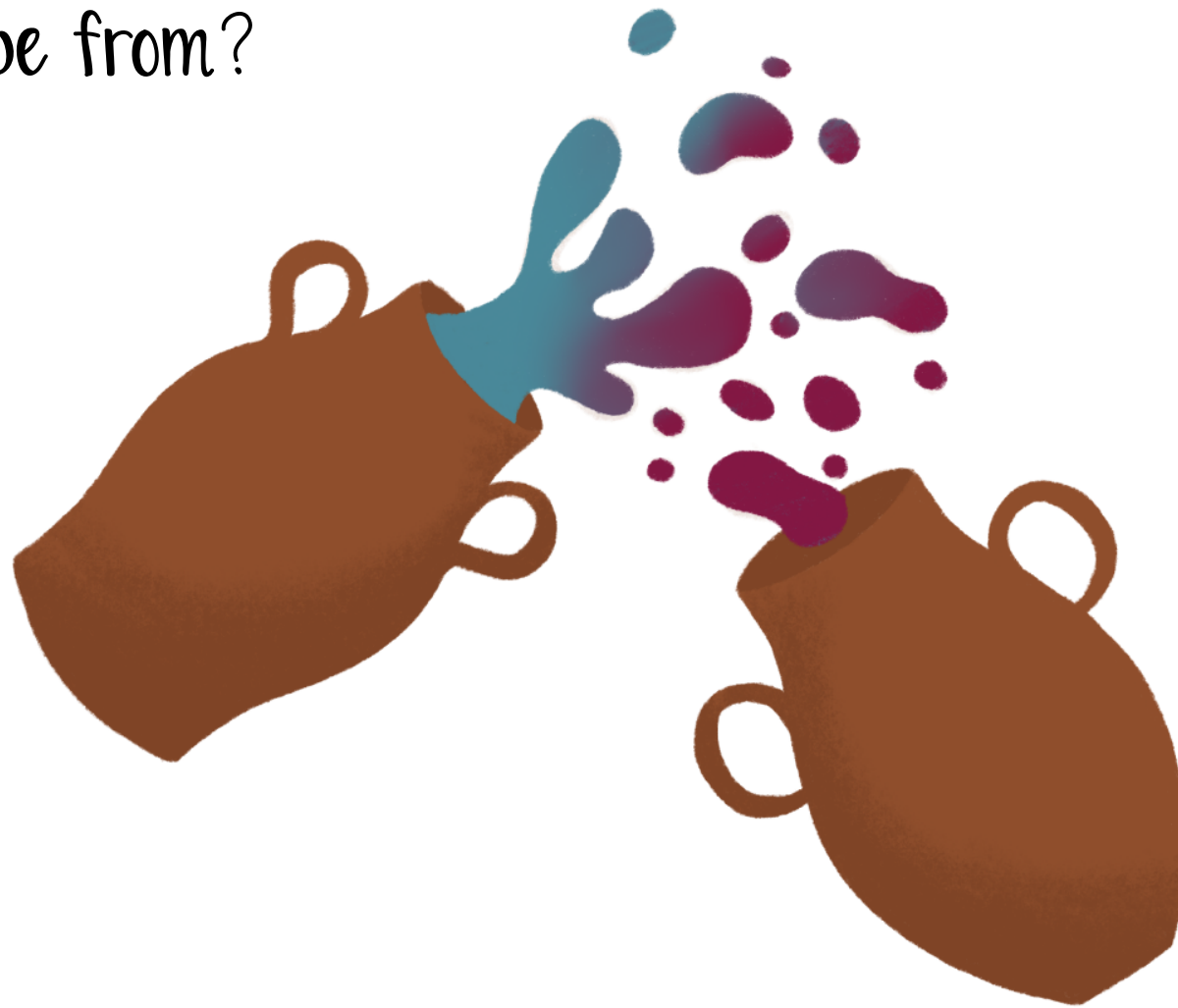
Information for parents and carers

After each Bible story, there are lots of questions which encourage children (and adults) to wonder – it is well worth giving time and space for this sort of thinking and reflecting in order to enrich pupils' spiritual development as well as their knowledge and understanding of the Bible.

At our Church schools, we aim to make worship Inclusive, Invitational and Inspirational. We hope that these stories, included as part of your worship at home, help your home worship to be all of these things. We invite you to use them and the worship resource in the way you feel is most appropriate for your own children.



I wonder if you can guess which Bible story this picture could be from?



The Wedding at Cana - John 2: 1-11 International Children's Bible (ICB)

2 Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there.

2 Jesus and his followers were also invited to the wedding. 3 When all the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

4 Jesus answered, "Dear woman, why come to me? My time has not yet come."

5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you to do."

6 In that place there were six stone water jars. The Jews used jars like these in their washing ceremony. Each jar held about 20 or 30 gallons.

7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled the jars to the top.

8 Then he said to them, "Now take some out and give it to the master of the feast."

So the servants took the water to the master. 9 When he tasted it, the water had become wine. He did not know where the wine came from. But the servants who brought the water knew. The master of the wedding called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "People always serve the best wine first. Later, after the guests have been drinking a lot, they serve the cheaper wine. But you have saved the best wine till now."

11 So in Cana Jesus did his first miracle. There he showed his glory, and his followers believed in him.

The Bible tells Christians about this amazing miracle that Jesus performed at the wedding.

What do you think of this story?

I wonder how the other wedding guests reacted to this miracle?

I wonder why Jesus changed the water into wine?

I wonder what this might tell you about Jesus and how he provides for people?

I wonder how this miracle showed his glory?

I wonder what you could do today to provide something for someone else? It doesn't need to be a miracle, just something that shows you care.



I wonder what Bible story you think this might be?



The parable of the Good Samaritan Luke 10: 29 - 37 Good News Translation (GNT)

An expert of the law asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"

30 Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. 31 It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. 32 In the same way a levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. 34 He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.'"

36 And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbour toward the man attacked by the robbers?"

37 The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him."

Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

Do you know what a parable is?

A parable is a special story Jesus told to give a clear message about how to behave or act as a follower of God.

I wonder how this parable makes you feel?

I wonder what message Jesus was giving his followers through this parable?

I wonder who your neighbour is? At the moment, it will be the people who live near you, but Jesus wanted us to remember that our neighbours are all those we live amongst, our wider community, town, country and world.

I wonder what you could do today as a family to support or care for your neighbours?

I wonder if you can think about your neighbours around the world?





This is
another
parable
Jesus told,
can you
guess which
one it is?

The parable of the Prodigal Son Luke 15: 11- 23 The Passion Translation (TPT)

11 Then Jesus said, “Once there was a father with two sons. 12 The younger son came to his father and said, ‘Father, don’t you think it’s time to give me the share of your estate that belongs to me?’ So the father went ahead and distributed among the two sons their inheritance. 13 Shortly afterward, the younger son packed up all his belongings and travelled off to see the world. He journeyed to a far-off land where he soon wasted all he was given through extravagant and reckless living.

14 “With everything spent and nothing left, he grew hungry, for there was a severe famine in that land. 15 So he begged a farmer in that country to hire him. The farmer hired him and sent him out to feed the pigs. 16 The son was so famished, he was willing to even eat the slop given to the pigs, because no one would feed him a thing.

17 “Humiliated, the son finally realised what he was doing and he thought, ‘There are many workers at my father’s house who have all the food they want with plenty to spare. They lack nothing. Why am I here dying of hunger, feeding these pigs and eating their slop? 18 I want to go back home to my father’s house, and I’ll say to him, “Father, I was wrong. I have sinned against you.

19 I'll never be worthy to be called your son. Please, Father, just treat me like one of your employees.”

20 “So the young son set off for home. From a long distance away, his father saw him coming, dressed as a beggar, and great compassion swelled up in his heart for his son who was returning home. So the father raced out to meet him. He swept him up in his arms, hugged him dearly, and kissed him over and over with tender love.

21 “Then the son said, ‘Father, I was wrong. I have sinned against you. I could never deserve to be called your son. Just let me be—’

“The father interrupted and said, ‘Son, you’re home now!’

22 “Turning to his servants, the father said, ‘Quick, bring me the best robe, my very own robe, and I will place it on his shoulders. Bring the ring, the seal of sonship, and I will put it on his finger. And bring out the best shoes you can find for my son. 23 Let’s prepare a great feast and celebrate. 24 For this beloved son of mine was once dead, but now he’s alive again. Once he was lost, but now he is found!’ Everyone celebrated with overflowing joy.

This is another parable that Jesus told. I wonder if you have heard this story before?

I wonder how the Dad in the story felt when his son left with his money?
How do you think he felt when his son came back?

For many Christians, the Dad in the story represents God. I wonder what this story might teach them about God?

I wonder who the other characters in the story might represent?

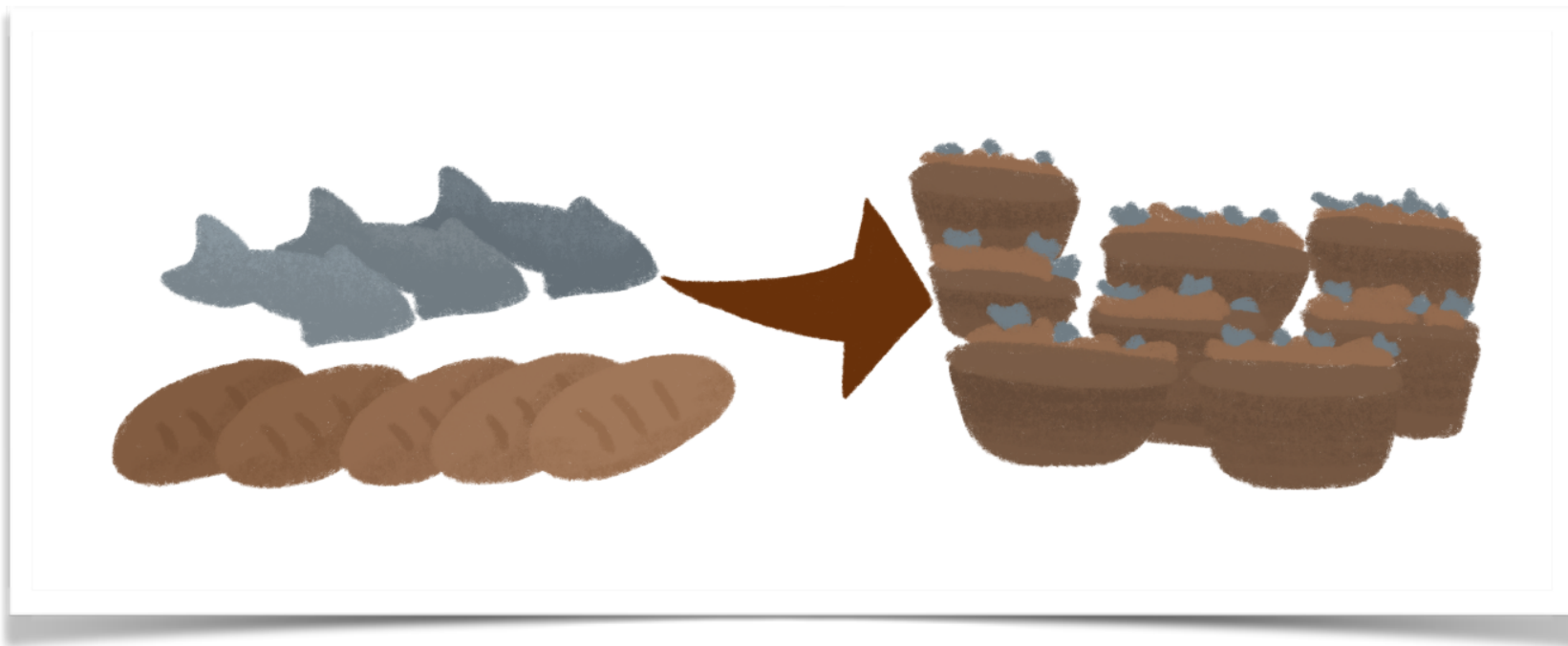
So, I wonder what the message of this parable might be?

I wonder what you might do differently after reading this parable?

I wonder if you are grateful for your family, friends and for all that you have?



Jesus performed many miracles in the Bible, but which one do you think this picture is of?



Jesus Feeds Five Thousand John 6: 1-14 Good News Translation (GNT)

6 After this, Jesus went across Lake Galilee. 2 A large crowd followed him, because they had seen his miracles of healing the sick. 3 Jesus went up a hill and sat down with his disciples. 4 The time for the Passover Festival was near. 5 Jesus looked around and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, so he asked Philip, "Where can we buy enough food to feed all these people?" (6 He said this to test Philip; actually he already knew what he would do.)

7 Philip answered, "For everyone to have even a little, it would take more than two hundred silver coins to buy enough bread."

8 Another one of his disciples, Andrew, who was Simon Peter's brother, said, 9 "There is a boy here who has five loaves of barley bread and two fish. But they will certainly not be enough for all these people."

10 "Make the people sit down," Jesus told them. (There was a lot of grass there.) So all the people sat down; there were about five thousand men. 11 Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God, and distributed it to the people who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, and they all had as much as they wanted. 12 When they were all full, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces left over; let us not waste a bit." 13 So they gathered them all and filled twelve baskets with the pieces left over from the five barley loaves which the people had eaten.

14 Seeing this miracle that Jesus had performed, the people there said, "Surely this is the Prophet who was to come into the world!"

The Bible tells Christians about many miracles which Jesus performed, I wonder what you think of this one?

I wonder how the little boy, who gave his lunch to Jesus, felt when it was multiplied thousands of times, providing enough food for 5000 people?

I wonder what this story teaches Christians about Jesus?
What example might they take from it?

The little boy gave all that he had, I wonder what you could give today to make a difference to someone else? Could it be your time, some of your toys, a book or something else that is important to you?



I wonder
who Jesus
meets in
this story?



Jesus and Zacchaeus Luke 19: 1-10 The Passion Translation (TPT)

1-3 In the city of Jericho there lived a very wealthy man named Zacchaeus, who was the supervisor over all the tax collectors. As Jesus made his way through the city, Zacchaeus was eager to see Jesus. He kept trying to get a look at him, but the crowd around Jesus was massive. Zacchaeus was a very short man and couldn't see over the heads of the people. 4 So he ran on ahead of everyone and climbed up a blossoming fig tree so he could get a glimpse of Jesus as he passed by. 5 When Jesus got to that place, he looked up into the tree and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry on down, for I am appointed to stay at your house today!"

6 So he scurried down the tree and came face-to-face with Jesus.

7 As Jesus left to go with Zacchaeus, many in the crowd complained, "Look at this! Of all the people to have dinner with, he's going to eat in the house of a crook."

8 Zacchaeus joyously welcomed Jesus and was amazed over his gracious visit to his home.

Zacchaeus stood in front of the Lord and said, "Half of all that I own I will give to the poor. And Lord, if I have cheated anyone, I promise to pay back four times as much as I stole."

9-10 Jesus said to him, "This shows that today life has come to you and your household, for you are a true son of Abraham. The Son of Man has come to seek out and to give life to those who are lost."

In Bible times, tax collectors were not very popular as they often charged people too much tax, which they then kept for themselves. Do you think this is why the crowd moaned at Jesus?

I wonder why Jesus chose Zacchaeus' house to go and visit?
What difference did Jesus make to Zacchaeus' life?

I wonder why Zacchaeus chose to give back lots of the money he stole as a sign he was sorry for what he had done?
Do you find it easy to say sorry?

I wonder if there is anyone you need to say sorry to?
I wonder how you could show that you are sorry after you have said it?



I wonder what happened to Jesus and his disciples in this story?



Jesus Calms a Storm Mark 4:35-41 The Passion Translation (TPT)

35 Later that day, after it grew dark, Jesus said to his disciples, “Let’s cross over to the other side of the lake.” 36 After they had sent the crowd away, they pushed off from shore with him, as he had been teaching from the boat, and there were other boats that sailed with them. 37 Suddenly, as they were crossing the lake, a ferocious storm arose, with violent winds and waves that were crashing into the boat until it was all but swamped. 38 But Jesus was calmly sleeping in the stern, resting on a cushion. 39 So they shook him awake, saying, “Teacher, don’t you even care that we are all about to die!” Fully awake, he rebuked the storm and shouted to the sea, “Hush! Calm down! Peace, be still!” All at once the wind stopped howling and the water became perfectly calm. 40 Then he turned to his disciples and said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Haven’t you learned to trust yet?” 41 But they were overwhelmed with fear and awe and said to one another, “Who is this man who has such authority that even the wind and waves obey him?”

Being in a boat during a storm can be really scary, no wonder the disciples were frightened. I wonder how they felt when the storm stopped?
I wonder how this story makes you feel?

Do you get scared sometimes?

For most of us, 'storms' are the things in our lives that try to knock us over, times that make us sad, that are difficult or make us anxious or frightened.

Think about what Jesus said to the storm, how might these words help you when you are going through a 'storm'?

Jesus said, 'Peace, be still and know that I am God'. I wonder how these words might help you and your family?





This story is a parable that Jesus told - can you guess which one it is?

The Parable of the Lost Sheep Luke 15: 1-7 The Passion Translation (TPT)

1-3 By this time a lot of men and women, who were sinners and outcasts, were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, “He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends.” Their grumbling triggered this story.

4-7 “Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn’t you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbours, saying, ‘Celebrate with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’ Count on it—there’s more joy in heaven over one sinner’s rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.

Shepherds are amazing, they can recognise each of their sheep, so they can quickly work out if one is missing.

I wonder why the shepherd was so overjoyed when he found the lost sheep?

Have you ever been lost? How did it feel when someone found you?

I wonder why Jesus told this parable? What message was Jesus trying to explain to his followers?

I wonder how you could care for and guide someone in your family like the shepherd did?

I wonder if you could help someone look for something that has been lost?





What story do
you think this
picture is
describing?

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem Matthew 21: 1-11 The Passion Translation (TPT)

21 Now, as they were approaching Jerusalem they arrived at the place of the stables near the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of his disciples ahead, saying, 2 “As soon as you enter the village, you will find a donkey tethered along with her young colt. Untie them both and bring them to me. 3 And if anyone stops you and asks, ‘What are you doing?’ just tell them, ‘The Lord of All needs them,’ and he will let you take them.”

4 All of this happened to fulfil the prophecy:

5 Tell Zion's daughter:

“Look, your King arrives!

He's coming to you full of gentleness,

sitting on a donkey, riding on a donkey's colt.”

6 So the two disciples went on ahead and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and her colt to him and placed their cloaks and prayer shawls on the colt, and Jesus rode on it.

8 Then an exceptionally large crowd gathered and carpeted the road before him with their cloaks and prayer shawls. Others cut down branches from palm trees to spread in his path and wave in the air. 9 Jesus rode in the centre of the procession—crowds going before him and crowds coming behind him, and they all shouted, “Hosanna, Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Praise God in the highest!”

10 As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people went wild with excitement—the entire city was thrown into an uproar! 11 Some asked, “Who is this man?” And the crowds shouted back, “This is Jesus! He’s the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee!”

Christians around the world remember this story on the Sunday before Easter, they call it Palm Sunday. Why do you think they call it Palm Sunday?

I wonder how Jesus felt when he heard people shout praises of 'Hosanna' and 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord?'

I wonder why the people were so excited to see Jesus coming into Jerusalem?

I wonder how you would have felt if you had been in the crowd that day?

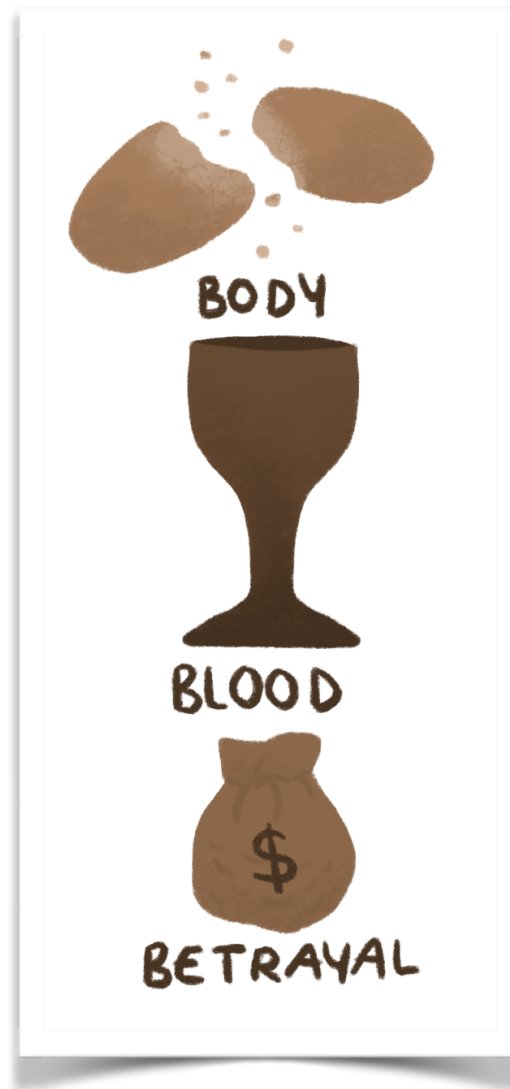
I wonder who you could thank today?

I wonder if you say thank you enough?

I wonder if you could praise or encourage someone for something they have done for you or others?



What story do
these images
make you think
of?



The Lord's Supper Luke 22: 14-23 Good News Translation (GNT)

14 When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table with his disciples. 15 He said to them, "I have wanted so much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer! 16 For I tell you, I will never eat it until it is given its full meaning in the Kingdom of God."

17 Then Jesus took a cup, gave thanks to God, and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. 18 I tell you that from now on I will not drink this wine until the Kingdom of God comes."

19 Then he took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me." 20 In the same way, he gave them the cup after the supper, saying, "This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you."

21 "But, look! The one who betrays me is here at the table with me! 22 The Son of Man will die as God has decided, but how terrible for that man who betrays him!"

23 Then they began to ask among themselves which one of them it could be who was going to do this.

This was the last meal Jesus shared with his friends.

I wonder how Jesus felt as he broke the bread and shared the wine?

Christians remember this meal when they take part in the Eucharist service in church. I wonder why you think they do this?

I wonder how Jesus felt knowing someone would betray him?

I wonder what this story teaches you about Jesus and who he was?

I wonder what you could do to remember your friends and family?

Could you send them a message or a card? Could you ring them?

What makes a good friend? I wonder if you are a good friend?



Jesus is crucified Luke 23: 26 - 43 International Children's Bible (ICB)

26 The soldiers led Jesus away. At that time, there was a man coming into the city from the fields. His name was Simon, and he was from the city of Cyrene. The soldiers forced Simon to carry Jesus' cross and walk behind him.

27 A large crowd of people was following Jesus. Some of the women were sad and crying.

32 There were also two criminals led out with Jesus to be killed. 33 Jesus and the two criminals were taken to a place called the Skull. There the soldiers nailed Jesus to his cross. They also nailed the criminals to their crosses, one beside Jesus on the right and the other beside Jesus on the left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing."

The soldiers threw lots to decide who would get his clothes. 35 The people stood there watching. The leaders made fun of Jesus. They said, "If he is God's Chosen One, the Christ, then let him save himself. He saved other people, didn't he?"

36 Even the soldiers made fun of him. They came to Jesus and offered him some vinegar. 37 They said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself!" 38 (At the top of the cross these words were written: "THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.") 39 One of the criminals began to shout insults at Jesus: "Aren't you the Christ? Then save yourself! And save us too!" 40 But the other criminal stopped him. He said, "You should fear God! You are getting the same punishment as he is. 41 We are punished justly; we should die. But this man has done nothing wrong!" 42 Then this criminal said to Jesus, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 Then Jesus said to him, "listen! What I say is true: Today you will be with me in paradise."



Jesus Dies Luke 23: 44- 53 International Children's Bible (ICB)

44 It was about noon, and the whole land became dark until three o'clock in the afternoon.

45 There was no sun! The curtain in the Temple was torn into two pieces. 46 Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, I give you my life." After Jesus said this, he died.

47 The army officer there saw what happened. He praised God, saying, "I know this was the son of God!" 48 Many people had gathered there to watch this thing. When they saw what happened, they returned home. They beat their chests because they were so sad. 49 Those who were close friends of Jesus were there. Some were women who had followed Jesus from Galilee. They all stood far away from the cross and watched.

50-51 A man from the Jewish town of Arimathea was there, too. His name was Joseph. He was a good, religious man. He wanted the kingdom of God to come. Joseph was a member of the Jewish council, but he had not agreed when the other leaders decided to kill Jesus. 52 Joseph went to Pilate to ask for the body of Jesus. 53 So Joseph took the body down from the cross and wrapped it in cloth. Then he put Jesus' body in a tomb that was cut in a wall of rock. This tomb had never been used before.

This is a really sad story to read. Lots of people were really cruel to Jesus and treated him badly. I always find this story hard to think about. I wonder how it felt when the sky went dark as Jesus died?

Christians call the day that Jesus died Good Friday.
I wonder why you think they call it Good Friday?
I wonder why Jesus had to die?

On Good Friday, Christians remember how Jesus sacrificed himself out of love for the whole world, so that all the wrong things people have done could be forgiven by God. I wonder if this is why Christians call the day Jesus died good?

I wonder how this story makes you feel?
I wonder what you would say to Jesus in response to what he did on Good Friday?





The Resurrection Luke 24: 1-12 International Children's Bible (ICB)

24 Very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the entrance to the tomb, 3 so they went in; but they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 They stood there puzzled about this, when suddenly two men in bright shining clothes stood by them. 5 Full of fear, the women bowed down to the ground, as the men said to them, "Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive? 6 He is not here; he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and three days later rise to life.'"

8 Then the women remembered his words, 9 returned from the tomb, and told all these things to the eleven disciples and all the rest. 10 The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; they and the other women with them told these things to the apostles. 11 But the apostles thought that what the women said was nonsense, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; he bent down and saw the grave cloths but nothing else. Then he went back home amazed at what had happened.

JESUS IS ALIVE! HAPPY EASTER!

For Christians, the most amazing part of the Easter story is that Jesus didn't stay dead in the tomb, he came back to life!

Christians around the world have joyful celebrations on Easter Sunday. I wonder why you think they do this?

I wonder how the ladies who visited the tomb felt when they couldn't find Jesus and then realised he was alive?

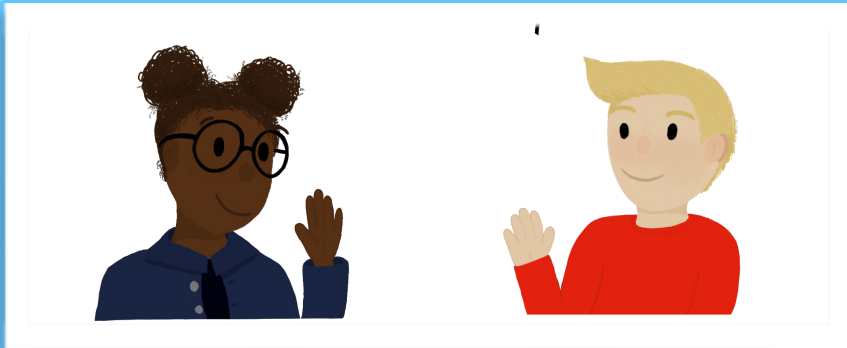
I wonder what the ladies said to the disciples when ran back to tell them?

I wonder how this story makes you feel?

I wonder what you could celebrate today?

I wonder how many things you could think to be thankful for?





We hope you have enjoyed reading and thinking about these Bible stories with us?

Lucy William

For more information about the other William and Lucy books and resources in this series visit:

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/childrenandyoungpeople/our-schools/collective-worship/william-lucy-lead-collective-worship/>

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